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TRA DOCKET ROOM
August 19, 2004

Guy M. Hicks
General Counsel

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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Jean Stone, Hearing Officer
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: *Petition of DIECA Communications, Inc., d/b/a Covad Communications Company*
Docket No. 04-00186

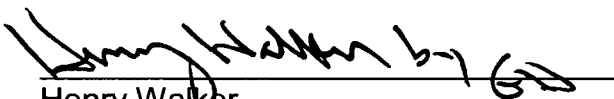
Dear Hearing Officer Stone:

The parties are in receipt of your letter of August 17, 2004, requesting that the parties file a clarification as to whether or not they are in agreement that this proceeding should be addressed as a petition for dispute resolution or a petition for arbitration. Your letter further states that if there is no such agreement, the parties' joint request for briefing schedule will go before the voting panel for a decision.

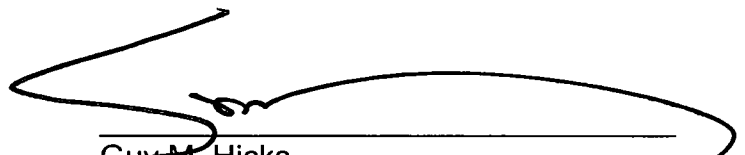
The parties have conferred and cannot agree as to whether this proceeding is one for change of law dispute resolution or arbitration. Given the instructions in your letter, the parties jointly request that the Authority approve the joint procedural schedule proposed in the parties' letter of August 12, 2004. The parties further request that the Authority approve the parties' procedural proposal during the August 30, 2004 Agenda Conference. As noted in the attached letter, the parties are proposing that they file written briefs on a threshold issue on or before September 3, 2004.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. Mr. Henry Walker, local counsel for Covad, has given me permission to sign this letter on his behalf. A copy of the enclosed is being provided to counsel for Covad.

Very truly yours,



Henry Walker
Counsel for Covad Communications Company



Guy M. Hicks
Counsel for BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on August 19, 2004, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the following, via the method indicated:

- ☐ Hand
- ☐ Mail
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- ☒ Electronic

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- ☐ Hand
- ☐ Mail
- ☐ Facsimile
- ☐ Overnight
- ☒ Electronic

Charles E. (Gene) Watkins, Esquire
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